

Remarks

Claim 57 has been allowed. Claims 4, 32 and 34-56 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. After the foregoing amendment, claims 4 – 30, 32 and 34 – 56 are pending. Claims 1-3, 31 and 33 have been canceled. Claims 4, 32 and 34 have been amended.

Claims 1 – 3, 31 and 33 stand rejected under section 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,275,694 to Yoshida et al. Applicant disagrees with the reasons for rejection of claims 1-3, 31 and 33. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has canceled claims 1-3, 31 and 33 and has amended claims 4, 32 and 34 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5-30 and 35-56 depend from amended claim 4 and amended claim 34, respectively. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of claims 1-3, 31 and 33 in this or another application.

Conclusion

The applicant requests that a Notice of Allowance be directed to claims 4-30, 32 and 34-57. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding the above Amendments and Remarks, the Examiner is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: 10/25/2005

Respectfully submitted,
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